

munity. No sector has more exciting potential today to bring a new note of confidence to the New Zealand scene as we move into the new century.

Jolyon Manning
Chairperson



NZIF President Wink Sutton with Lisa Crozier (Vice President) and Phil Taylor in Dunedin City Council forests.



Logging truck, Dunedin City Council forests.

Westland Section report

Peter Allan, Chairperson
Michael Orchard, Secretary

Westland Section comprises a small diverse group of Institute members including NZ Timberlands, Department of Conservation, Regional Council, sawmilling and private people. (There is no Ministry of Forestry presence on the West Coast; rather an anomaly given the continuing national values of its native production and protection forests.)

A wider group of local members have supported the field trips, which have mainly been held jointly with members of the Farm Forestry Association. Although 1989 activities were low-key because of a continuing period of restructuring and change, 1990 holds more promise, and contacts will also be sought with the Tree Crops Association in Westport. Increased input from members, to influence regional and national forestry, will be our goal.

Chairperson Peter Allan contributed to the Institute's submissions on the Native Forest Policy and Department of Conservation Mining Policy. He continues to work in the Regional Council, and provide valuable input to their forestry policy. A West Coast-based Forestry Enterprise Company, which is 50% owned by the West Coast Regional Council, has been formed to bid for the West Coast State Forests. All exotic and indigenous forests are to be sold as a single package, including cutting rights to approximately 130,000 hectares of beech and podocarp forest (which the Institute seeks to be managed on a truly sustainable basis). Contractual Tasma-



Peter Allan

nian Blackwood plantings would continue to be made in South Westland as part of any sale agreement.

Although Secretary of the local branch, I continued to put most effort into Institute Council activities, and meetings throughout the country. The members of the Council have put in hard work and long hours to reform the Institute of Forestry's administrative and policy structure, so that we can go forward with strength and confidence into the 1990s. Two visits have been made to the Otago/Southland Section where membership roll computerisation is being tested and linked in with the new local body administration system in New Zealand. Additionally, strong formal links are sought with kindred bodies, as a prelude to a new membership campaign.

The highlight of the year was my nomination and attendance as 'Rapporteur' to the Tropical Forest Action Plan Session of the 13th Commonwealth Forestry Conference in Rotorua. I would recommend that many of you seriously consider joining the Commonwealth Forestry Association, or subscribe to its valuable annual technical handbook.

Most recent forestry interest on the West Coast has been the regular visits of former Forestry Minister Peter Tapsell, seeking co-operation on and initiation of a new long-term 'New Zealand Forestry Policy' that will "withstand the vicissitudes of politics". Why not invite the new Minister to speak at a local or public group in your regional area, and form an action group to contribute?

Michael Orchard
Secretary



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